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REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,570,867 to Robinson in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,611,867 to Bowman -Amuah.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections for at least the following reasons.

The communication management system of the present invention, as recited in the claims, collects a supported target pattern and a support service quality as QoS capability management information from each subnetwork, and selects a subnetwork having a candidate QoS capability satisfying the requested QoS capability by generating a QoS Capability NW view at the NMS. (See Fig. 3, element 42)

It is respectfully submitted that the relied upon portions of Robinson and Bowman-Amuah do not teach means for the collection of the QoS capability management information, specifically the supported target pattern and the support service quality, from each network. Each one of the independent claims 1-9, 11-15, 19, 22, and 24 recites the use of the "QoS capability management information."

Further, it is submitted that contrary to the Examiner's suggestion, the relied upon portions of Bowman-Amuah do not teach a system where at least one subnetwork has a different technology than other subnetworks. Specifically, the relied upon portion of the reference merely states that "[t]he Sub-Network might be defined: on the basis that it employs a particular technology (e.g. SDH or ATM), with its associated management." Even the relied upon Fig. 36, does not distinguishing between technologies. Rather as described in the specification relating to the subnetworks, these are for differing domains, possibly for different vendors, but there is no

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statement that these differing domains represent different technology as that term is used in the instant application.

For at least these reasons, it is submitted that independent claims 1-9, 11-15, 19, 22, and 24, patenably distinguish over the relied upon portions of the cited references and are allowable. Claims 10, 16-18, 20, 21, and 23, which depend from one of these allowable base claims, are allowable therewith.

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



Nathan Weber
Reg. No. 50,958

CUSTOMER NUMBER 026304
Telephone: (212) 940-8800
Fax: (212) 940-8986 or 8987
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